

REMARKS

Further to a telephone conference with the Petitions Examiner, Ms. Karen Creasy, on September 22, 2004, Applicants are amending the specification to incorporate the disclosure and claim the priority of the prior applications by reference. Applicants further submit that the amendment being presented herewith is directed only to correcting an administrative error and not to matter that would require substantive reconsideration of the application.

Also further to the above-noted telephone conference, for purposes of the renewed petition, the above-referenced application is correctly a continuation application of PCT application number PCT/JP99/06749 filed on December 1, 1999, which designated the United States of America, under 35 U.S.C. § 120.

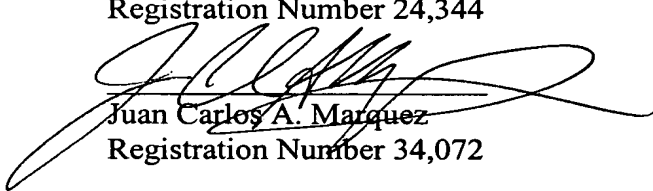
In view of the above amendment and the following remarks, Applicants respectfully request that the above-outlined amendment be given due consideration, that the allowability of the amendment be indicated, and that the issuance of this allowed application be cleared to proceed.

Applicants wish to again thank Petitions Examiner Creasy for her kind consideration in her discussion with Applicants' undersigned representative.

Favorable consideration of the above amendment is respectfully solicited. Should there be any outstanding issues requiring discussion that would further the issuance of the above-captioned allowed application, the Office is invited to contact the Applicants' undersigned representative at the address and telephone number indicated below.

Respectfully submitted,

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